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LETTER DATED 19 AUGUST 1991 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF
IRAQ TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to inform you that the United States Air Force continues to violate Iraqi airspace. The details of the most recent violations are as follows:

1. During the period of 15/16 August 1991, the United States Air Force conducted, within Iraqi airspace, 11 sorties, carried out by five formations of two aircraft each and one aircraft flying solo. The United States aircraft flew at speeds of 600 to 720 km/h and at altitudes of 4,000 to 6,000 metres.
2. The sorties were centred on the areas of Arbil, Mosul, Dahuk and Amadiyah and had the dual objective of observation and provocation.
3. At 1006 hours an unidentified target coming from Kuwait violated our airspace near Safwan, penetrating it for a distance of 35 km south of Basra. This was an aircraft flying at a speed of 600 km/h, which disappeared at 1020 hours into Kuwaiti airspace. It is presumed that the aircraft was carrying out a reconnaissance mission in the region.
4. At 1255 hours, an unidentified target penetrated Iraqi airspace east of Safwan. This was an aircraft flying at a speed of 600 km/h, which penetrated our airspace for a distance of 10 km before disappearing at 1305 hours into Kuwaiti airspace. It is presumed that it was carrying out a reconnaissance mission in the region.
5. At 1348 hours, an unidentified target coming from Kuwait violated our airspace south of Artawiya. This was an aircraft flying at a speed of 600 km/h, which penetrated our airspace for a distance of 5 km. The aircraft disappeared at 1356 hours into Kuwaiti airspace. It is presumed that it was carrying out a reconnaissance mission in the region.
6. At 1406 hours an unidentified target penetrated Iraqi airspace west of Safwan for a distance of five km. The aircraft violated our airspace again at 1425 hours, entering it south of the air unit base. It penetrated our airspace for a distance of 10 km, flying at a speed of 600 km/h. It was an

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isolated aircraft, which, it is presumed, was carrying out a reconnaissance mission in the region.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Abdul Amir A. AL-ANBARI
Ambassador
Permanent Representative
